

CLAIMS

1. A ceramic ink, the ink comprising a glass frit, a pigment, an organic vehicle and an oxidising agent; wherein the oxidising agent comprises a bismuth salt of nitric acid.

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2. An ink according to claim 1, wherein the oxidising agent comprises one or more species chosen from; BiONO_3 , $\text{Bi}_5\text{O}(\text{OH})_9(\text{NO}_3)_4$, $\text{BiONO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{Bi}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

3. An ink according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the oxidising agent comprises 0.5 to 20 wt% of the ink.

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4. An ink according to any preceding claim, wherein the glass frit has a softening point of between 480 and 550°C.

5. An ink according to any preceding claim, wherein the glass frit comprises a bismuth containing frit.

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6. An ink according to any preceding claim, wherein the pigment comprises one or more of copper chromite(III), iron-manganese oxide and iron-chromium-manganese-nickel oxide.

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7. An ink according to any preceding claim, wherein the pigment comprises 10-40 wt% of the ink.

8. An ink according to any preceding claim further comprising a seed material chosen from one or more of bismuth silicates, bismuth titanates, titania, silica, other glass frits and pigments.

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9. An ink according to claim 8, wherein the seed material comprises 0.5-10 wt% of the ink.

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10. An ink according to any preceding claim, wherein the organic vehicle comprises a screen printing medium.

11. A substrate coated or decorated using an ink according to any preceding claim.

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12. A laminated glass product comprising a coating or decoration; wherein the coating or decoration is applied using an ink according to any of claims 1 to 10.

10 13. A method of coating or decorating a substrate, the method comprising applying a ceramic ink to a substrate, followed by drying and firing; wherein the ink comprises a glass frit, a pigment, an organic vehicle and an oxidising agent; and wherein the oxidising agent comprises a bismuth salt of nitric acid.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the substrate is glass.